

BREED CODE: BUR - BURMESE

GENERAL TYPE STANDARD

The Burmese is an elegant cat of medium foreign type, which is positive and quite individual to the breed. Ear set, eye shape and brow line, combine to form the distinctive Burmese frown. Any suggestion of either Siamese type or cobbiness of the British cat must be regarded as a fault.

Head

The head carried on a medium neck, should be slightly rounded on top, with good breadth between the ears, having wide cheekbones and tapering to a short blunt wedge. The jaw should be wide at the hinge and the chin firm, a muzzle pinch is a fault, the outer line of the ears continuing the shape of the upper part of the face. This may not be so apparent in mature males who can develop a fullness of cheek.

In profile the head to show good depth between the top of the skull and the lower jaw. The brow to be slightly rounded. There should be a distinct nose break followed by a straight nose ending with the tip of the nose in the same vertical plane as the chin. The lower jaw to show a good depth of chin.

Ears

Ears should be medium in size, set well apart on the skull, broad at the base, with slightly rounded tips. In profile, the ears should be seen to have a slight forward tilt. Allowance to be made for correctly shaped but over-large ears in a kitten, when the head size and shape are still developing.

Eye Set

The eyes, which must be set well apart, should be large and lustrous, the top line of the eyes showing a straight oriental slant towards the nose, the lower line being round. Either round or slit eyes are a fault.

Eye Colour

Eyes should be any shade from yellow to amber, with golden yellow preferred. Eye colour is sensitive to light intensity, should be assessed under identical light conditions moderately diffuse daylight for preference. Allowance made for developing colour in kittens and colour dilution in an older cat.

- Body** The body should be of medium length and size (allowance to be made for larger size in males), feeling hard and muscular, and heavier than its appearance indicates. The chest should be strong and rounded in profile, the back straight from shoulders to rump.
- Legs** Legs should be slender and in proportion to the body. Hind legs slightly longer than front; paws neat and oval in shape.
- Tail** The tail should be straight and of medium length, not heavy at base, and tapering only slightly to a rounded tip without bone defect. A whip tail or kink is not permissible.
- Coat** The coat should be short, fine, and satin-like in texture, lying close to the body. The glossy coat is a distinctive feature of Burmese and is indicative of good health.
- Condition** Should be well muscled, with good weight for size, carrying no fat, lively and alert, with a firm feel when handled.
- Colours** In all colours the under-parts will be slightly lighter than the back. A coat free from barring, or spotting, should be aimed for in all colours. Top awards should be withheld from mature cats (over 2 years of age) showing decided contrast between coat colour and points. The individual colour descriptions are for mature adults. Allowance should be made in kittens and adolescents for a lighter coat colour than the adult standard specifies.
- The presence of a few white hairs may be overlooked in an otherwise excellent cat, but a noticeable number of white hairs, or a white patch, is a serious fault. A light sprinkling of white hairs is allowed over the shoulder, where damage may result from injections, or from other cats, as for breeding queens.

SCALE OF POINTS

Head, Ears & Neck		20
Wedge	10	
Profile	5	
Neck	5	
Eyes		20
Shape & Set	10	
Colour	10	
Body Legs & Tail		25
Body	15	
Legs & Paws	5	
Tail	5	
Coat		30
Texture	15	
Colour	15	
Condition	5	5
	TOTAL	100

Faults:

1. Tabby bars, spots or blotches on body or tail. This in effect excludes all patterns except the ticked tabby pattern.
2. Any eye colour other than yellow or amber.
3. Whip tail, or a short, thick tail, invisible tail-bone defect.
4. Profile straight, marked break or 'stop'.
5. Small ears.
6. Nose showing bumps.
7. Nose leather falling back markedly, i.e., tip of nose not in a vertical line with chin.
8. Protuberant eyes.

Withhold challenge certificate or first place in kitten classes for:

1. Green eyes.
2. A patch or noticeable number of white hairs.
3. Visible tail kinks.
4. Siamese or British body type.
5. Lack of weight or condition.
6. Flat or dished brow, uneven skull or cranial defect.

Note on Sepia

The temperature sensitive albinism genes cause cooler parts of the body to develop a darker pigment. The sepia form of this colour restriction, often referred to as Burmese expression, gives a coat colour which is paler and warmer than the full colour equivalents due to the reduction in the amount of pigment in the melanin granules. The coat darkens with age and has slight intensification at the points which is most visible in kittens.

COLOUR CHARTS

Code	Colour	Coat Colour	Nose Leather & Pads	Other
BUR	Seal	Warm dark seal brown, shading almost imperceptibly to a slightly lighter shade on the under-parts; apart from this and slightly darker ears and mask, there should be no body shading or markings of any kind.	Brown.	
BUR A	Blue	Silver grey only very slightly darker on the back and tail. There should be a distinct silver sheen on rounded areas such as ears, face and feet.	Grey.	
BUR B	Chocolate	Warm milk chocolate. Ears and mask may be slightly darker, but legs, tail and lower jaw should be the same colour as the back. Evenness of colour overall very desirable.	Warm chocolate brown. Pads: Cinnamon pink shading to chocolate.	
BUR C	Lilac	Pale delicate dove-grey, with a slightly pinkish cast giving a rather faded effect. Ears and mask may be slightly deeper in colour.	Lavender pink. Pads: Shell pink in kittens, becoming lavender pink in adults.	
BUR B/1	Cinnamon	Warm light coppery cinnamon, with allowance for darker mask and ears.	Light Cinnamon Pads: Bright pink in kittens, maturing to very light cinnamon with pinkish undertones.	
BUR C/1	Fawn	Very pale pearly fawn with pinkish and creamy undertones.	Pale Grey Pads: Bright pink in kittens, maturing to extremely pale grey with pinkish undertones.	

Code	Colour	Coat Colour	Nose Leather & Pads	Other
BUR D	Red	Light tangerine. Slight tabby markings may be found on the face, and small indeterminate markings elsewhere (except on sides and belly) are permissible in an otherwise excellent cat. Ears should be distinctly darker than the back.	Pink	
BUR G	Cream	Soft cream with a distinct bloom which gives a powdery effect. Slight tabby markings may be found on the face, and small indeterminate markings elsewhere (except on the sides and belly) are permissible in an otherwise excellent cat. Ears should be only slightly darker than the back coat colour.	Pink	

RUSSET

Russet Burmese can presumably occur in any base colour. The different base colours are very obvious in kittens but much less so in the adult cat. Agouti and non-agouti cats are very similar in appearance also.

There are several differences between kittens and adult cats; development of the adult coat pattern and colour takes more than a year and the time taken is rather variable.

Russet kittens have colour and markings almost identical to non-russet tabby kittens of the same age and base colour, but lack crisp ticking and have pale fur around the paw pads, tail-tip and genital area. As russet kittens grow, the solid base colour areas are progressively overlaid with gold to light tangerine, starting at the head, which usually turns entirely reddish. On the dorsal surface of the body, broad tipping of the fur with gold to light tangerine develops gradually. There is also reduction in density of colour in the bottom half of the hair nearest the skin. The mature cat is superficially yellow to reddish all over, but with the base colour in the dorsal undercoat visible to an extent that varies between individuals and with coat changes during the year. As in reds and creams, minor barring on the kneecaps and inside the front legs is not a major fault. The nose leather is entirely pink and the paw pads in all colours are initially pale, eventually losing all pigment to become bright pink. Ears show thumb prints.

Note: Descriptions in the colour charts below refer to the **adult cat**.

Code	Colour	Coat Colour	Nose Leather & Pads	Other
BUR Ru	Seal Russet	Underparts, flanks and head pale gold to light tangerine. Fur on the upper parts has three bands of colour: ivory/pale cream nearest the skin, then a band of seal brown, then a gold to light tangerine tip. In some cats the gold to light tangerine tip is so wide it replaces the seal entirely.	Pink, with no darker rim on the nose leather.	Kittens: Refer to general description above. Note: The russet pattern exaggerates any residual tabby markings; this should not be regarded as a major fault.

Code	Colour	Coat Colour	Nose Leather & Pads	Other
BUR Ru/B	Chocolate Russet	Underparts, flanks and head gold to light tangerine. Fur on the upper parts has three bands of colour: ivory/pale cream nearest the skin, then a band of chocolate, then a gold to light tangerine tip. In some cats the gold to light tangerine tip is so wide it replaces the chocolate entirely.	Pink, with no darker rim on the nose leather.	<p>Kittens: Refer to general description above.</p> <p>Note: The russet pattern exaggerates any residual tabby markings; this should not be regarded as a major fault.</p>

CARAMEL

Accepted across all Burmese varieties.

Code	Colour	Coat Colour	Nose Leather & Pads	Other
BUR k	Caramel	Warm toned brownish lilac/fawn on body. Legs and tail may shade to pale apricot, honey beige. Denser colour on face and ears, paler on the undersides. Metallic sheen on hocks, ears and facial markings.	Nose leather, pads and eye rims a pinkish fawn.	
BUR k/G	Apricot	Cool dusty cast over intense pinkish cream. Denser colour on mask and ears, paler undersides. Metallic sheen on hocks, ears and facial markings.	Nose leather and pads pink.	

TORTIE

The coat may display two shades of its basic colours and may thus appear to display three or even four colours. The colours may be mingled or blotched, without any obvious barring; blazes, solid legs or tail are all permissible. In all tortie varieties, type (body conformation) is deemed more important than distribution of colour.

Code	Colour	Coat Colour	Nose Leather & Pads	Other
BUR E	Seal Tortie	A mixture of brown and red.	Plain or blotched, brown and pink.	
BUR E/A	Blue Tortie	A mixture of blue and cream.	Plain or blotched, blue and pink.	
BUR E/B	Chocolate Tortie	A mixture of chocolate and red.	Plain or blotched, chocolate and pink.	
BUR E/C	Lilac Tortie	A mixture of lilac and cream.		
BUR E/B1	Cinnamon Tortie	A mixture of cinnamon and red.	Light Cinnamon Pads: Bright pink in Kittens, maturing to very light cinnamon with pinkish undertones.	
BUR E/C1	Fawn Tortie	A mixture of pale pearly fawn and pale cream.	Pale Grey Pads: Bright pink in Kittens, maturing to extremely pale grey with pinkish undertone.	

TABBY

For full description of tabby patterns refer to the Standard of Points introduction. Must display only the ticked tabby pattern.

Code	Colour	Ground Colour/Markings	Nose Leather	Pads, Eye Rims	Whisker Pads
BUR F	Seal Tabby	Ground: Warm fawn/brown Clearly defined warm seal brown.	Seal brown or pink rimmed with seal brown.	Warm seal brown.	Warm seal brown.
BUR F/A	Blue Tabby	Ground: Bluish ivory. Clearly defined soft silver grey.	Grey or pink rimmed with grey.	Grey.	Soft silver grey
BUR F/B	Chocolate Tabby	Ground: Pale fawn. Clearly defined warm milk chocolate	Warm chocolate brown or pink rimmed with warm chocolate brown.	Cinnamon pink shading to chocolate.	Warm milk chocolate.
BUR F/C	Lilac Tabby	Ground: Pale lavender ivory Clearly defined pale, delicate dove grey	Lavender pink or pink rimmed with lavender pink.	Shell pink to lavender pink.	Dove grey.
BUR FB/1	Cinnamon Tabby	Ground: Pale fawn. Clearly defined warm cinnamon markings and whisker pads.	Warm cinnamon, or pink rimmed with warm cinnamon.	Cinnamon pink	
BUR FC/1	Fawn Tabby	Ground. Very pale pinkish cream. Clearly defined pearly fawn markings and whisker pads.	Pale grey or pink rimmed with pale grey.	Pink, maturing to very pale grey, with pink undertones	
BUR F/D	Red Tabby	Ground: Very pale red Clearly defined light tangerine.	Tangerine or pink rimmed with tangerine.	Pink.	Tangerine.
BUR F/G	Cream Tabby	Ground: Very pale cream/ivory. Clearly defined soft cream markings with a distinct bloom that gives a powdered effect.	Pink.	Soft cream.	Soft cream.

TORTIE TABBY

These cats are genetically tabbies and therefore resemble tabbies, rather than torties. Distribution of patching immaterial.

Code	Colour	Coat Colour	Nose Leather & Pads	Other
BUR F/E	Seal Tortie Tabby	Warm fawn/brown but patched with red and/or cream over clearly defined warm seal brown markings.	Plain or mottled, seal brown and/or pink.	
BUR F/EA	Blue Tortie Tabby	Bluish ivory but patched with cream over clearly defined soft silver grey markings.	Plain or mottled, blue and/or pink.	
BUR F/EB	Chocolate Tortie Tabby	Pale fawn but patched with cream over clearly defined warm milk chocolate markings.	Plain or mottled, chocolate and/or pink.	
BUR F/EC	Lilac Tortie Tabby	Pale lavender ivory but patched with cream over clearly defined pale delicate dove-grey markings.	Plain or mottled, lilac and/or pink.	
BUR FEB/1	Cinnamon Tortie/Tabby	Pale fawn, patched with red over warm cinnamon markings.	Plain or mottled cinnamon and/or pink.	
BUR FEC/1	Fawn Tortie/Tabby	Pale pearly fawn, patched with pale cream over clearly defined pearly fawn markings.	Plain or mottled grey and/or pink.	

SMOKE

A non-agouti cat with the 'silver' gene is a **smoke**.

The smoke effect is produced by a silvery undercoat combined with overhair that is tipped in colour with a silvery root. In repose these cats will appear as solid coated cats, in motion or on parting the hair of the coat, the white undercoat will show. There is great variation in the degree of 'smoking' in cats, and breeders should select for those with the greatest degree of silvery roots and undercoat. The undercoat of all smokes is slightly lighter than the roots of the shaded hairs. Trace markings on the tail, limbs and forehead are allowable but should be considered undesirable, and should not occur elsewhere. Scattered white hairs and rusty or other shadings should not be severely penalised in an otherwise good kitten.

Code	Colour	Coat Colour	Nose Leather & Pads	Other
BUR s	Seal Smoke	Silvery white undercoat tipped with dark warm seal brown.	Dark seal brown/black.	
BUR s/A	Blue Smoke	Silvery white undercoat tipped with soft silver grey.	Grey.	
BUR s/B	Chocolate Smoke	Silvery white undercoat tipped with warm milk chocolate.	Warm chocolate brown. Pads: Cinnamon pink shading to chocolate.	
BUR s/C	Lilac Smoke	Silvery white undercoat tipped with pale delicate dove grey.	Lavender-pink. Pads: Shell pink in kittens, becoming lavender pink in adults.	
BUR sB/1	Cinnamon Smoke	Silvery white undercoat tipped with warm cinnamon	Warm cinnamon. Pads: Cinnamon pink shading to warm cinnamon	
BUR sC/1	Fawn Smoke	Silvery white undercoat tipped with pearly fawn	Pale grey. Pads: Pink shading maturing to very pale grey, with pink undertone.	
BUR s/D	Red Smoke	Creamy silver white undercoat tipped with light	Tangerine/pink.	

Code	Colour	Coat Colour	Nose Leather & Pads	Other
		tangerine.		
BUR s/G	Cream Smoke	Creamy silver undercoat tipped with soft cream.	Pink.	

TORTIE SMOKE

In repose the coat may display two shades of its basic colours and may thus appear to display three or even four colours. The colours may be mingled or blotched; blazes; solid legs or tails are all permissible.

Code	Colour	Coat Colour	Nose Leather & Pads	Other
BUR s/E	Seal Tortie Smoke	Silvery white/cream undercoat tipped with a mixture of warm dark seal brown and light tangerine and soft cream.	Plain or blotched, seal brown and pink.	
BUR s/EA	Blue Tortie Smoke	Silvery white/cream undercoat tipped with soft silver grey and cream.	Plain or blotched, blue and pink.	
BUR s/EB	Chocolate Tortie Smoke	Silvery white/cream undercoat tipped with warm milk chocolate and light tangerine and soft cream.	Plain or blotched, chocolate and pink.	
BUR s/EC	Lilac Tortie Smoke	Silvery white/cream undercoat tipped with pale delicate dove grey and soft cream.	Plain or blotched, lilac and pink.	
BUR s/EB/1	Cinnamon Tortie Smoke	Silvery white/cream undercoat, tipped with warm cinnamon and light tangerine.	Plain or blotched cinnamon and pink.	
BUR s/EC/1	Fawn Tortie Smoke	Silvery white/cream undercoat, tipped with pearly fawn and soft cream.	Plain or blotched grey and pink.	

SILVER TABBY

An agouti cat with the 'silver' gene is a **silver tabby**.

The degree of silvering in these cats shows great variety. Some look the same as normal tabbies, while others show extreme contrast between the colour and the ground. The ideal is the silver with the extreme contrast. The silver tabbies must display only the ticked tabby pattern.

Note: Markings on the extremities may be entirely absent, or range from slight shading, to kneecaps to distinct stripes.

Code	Colour	Ground Colour	Markings	Nose Leather	Pads, Eye Rims / Whisker
BUR s/F	Seal Silver Tabby	Silver agouti.	Dense seal brown/black.	Seal brown/black or pink rimmed with seal brown/black.	Seal brown/black.
BUR s/FA	Blue Silver Tabby	Silver agouti.	Silver grey.	Grey	Grey
BUR s/FB	Chocolate Silver Tabby	Silver agouti.	Warm milk chocolate.	Chocolate brown or pink rimmed with chocolate brown.	Pads: Cinnamon pink shading to chocolate. Whisker Spots: Chocolate brown.
BUR s/FC	Lilac Silver Tabby	Silver agouti.	Dove grey.	Lavender pink or pink rimmed with lavender pink.	Pads: Shell pink to lavender pink. Eye Rims/Whisker Spots : Dove grey
BUR sFB/1	Cinnamon Silver Tabby	Ground colour - pale fawn Clearly defined warm cinnamon markings and whisker pads	Warm cinnamon, or pink rimmed with warm cinnamon	Cinnamon pink	Pads: Cinnamon Pink. Eye Rims/Whisker Spots: Cinnamon

Code	Colour	Ground Colour	Markings	Nose Leather	Pads, Eye Rims / Whisker
BUR s/FC1	Fawn Silver Tabby	Silver agouti ground colour.	Clearly defined pearly fawn markings, whisker pads.	Pale grey or pink rimmed with pale grey.	Pads Pale grey or pink Eye Rims/Whisker Spots: Pale grey.
BUR s/FD	Red Silver Tabby	Silver agouti.	Tangerine.	Pink or pink rimmed with tangerine.	Pads: Pink. Eye Rims/Whisker Spots: Tangerine
BUR s/FG	Cream Silver Tabby	Silver agouti.	Cream.	Pink or pink rimmed with cream.	Pads: Pink. Eye Rims/Whisker Spots: Cream

TORTIE SILVER TABBY

Distribution of patching immaterial.

Code	Colour	Coat Colour	Nose Leather & Pads	Other
BUR s/FE	Seal Tortie Silver Tabby	Silver agouti ground colour but patched with red and/or cream over dense seal brown/black tabby markings.	Plain or mottled, seal brown/black or pink.	
BUR s/FEA	Blue Tortie Silver Tabby	Silver agouti ground colour but patched with cream over silver grey tabby markings.	Plain or mottled, blue and/or pink.	
BUR s/FEB	Chocolate Tortie Silver Tabby	Silver agouti ground colour but patched with red and/or cream over warm milk chocolate tabby markings.	Plain or mottled, chocolate and/or pink.	
BUR s/FEC	Lilac Tortie Silver Tabby	Silver agouti ground colour but patched with cream over dove grey tabby markings.	Plain or mottled, lilac and/or pink.	
BUR s/FEB1	Cinnamon Tortie Silver Tabby	Silver agouti ground colour, patched with red over warm cinnamon tabby markings.	Plain or mottled, cinnamon and/or pink.	
BUR s/FEC1	Fawn Tortie Silver Tabby	Silver agouti ground colour, patched with cream over pearly fawn markings.	Plain or mottled, pale grey and/or pink.	